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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC-05820-84
11 October 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Executive Director

FROM: David D. Whipple [redacted]
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism

SUBJECT: State Department Proposal for New Terrorism Alerting
System [redacted]

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1. Ambassador Robert Oakley, who has recently replaced Ambassador Robert Sayre and directs the State Department's terrorism policy and lead agency role in managing terrorist incidents abroad, asked me to join [redacted] as a guest at the 9 October meeting of the Interdepartmental Group on Terrorism (IG/T). Oakley chairs the IG/T and [redacted] is the alternate CIA member. At that meeting and without prior notice, Oakley asked me to talk on intelligence coordination. I did so, describing procedure improvements within the Intelligence Community in positive terms. Oakley, vociferously joined by Noel Koch of DoD/ISA and Oliver North of NSC, then proceeded to complain about circular and duplicative reporting of threat alerts sent to posts abroad via various agencies' channels and often based on the same information. I acknowledged the truth, that such problems do arise from time to time. [redacted]

2. Oakley subsequently asked State/INR to work with me and CIA to organize a meeting of representatives of intelligence collecting agencies to set up a new system whereby only State henceforth would alert posts abroad concerning threat alerts. Oakley wants such alerts to be the products of coordinated assessments of and agreements by all collecting agencies. Oakley visualizes the new system as being the basis for eliminating duplicative reporting to posts abroad via various channels available to other agencies. Oakley suggested that the NSC prepare a directive to establish this new alerting system and presumably to command an end to duplicative reporting. Oliver North enthusiastically agreed to do so. [redacted]

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3. I have subsequently worked with Robert Dubose of State/INR/OGI to organize such a meeting. It is scheduled for 1330 on Monday, 15 October, in Room 5G00 here at CIA. Because of the obvious ramifications affecting/threatening existing alerting methods and channels. I have asked [redacted] and [redacted] of the DDI/OGI, and [redacted] A/NIO/Warning, to attend this meeting. We all will be joined by representatives from State/INR, DIA, and NSA. I plan to use this meeting to air the problems and to explore Oakley's and alternative solutions. [redacted]

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David D. Whipple

David D. Whipple [redacted]

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SUBJECT: State Department Proposal for New Terrorism Alerting System [REDACTED]

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NIC/NIO/CT/D.Whipple:map [REDACTED] (11 October 1984)

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